

SPECIFICATION

TITLE OF THE INVENTION

Portable terminal

S.A.

5 This application is a continuation of PC77JP99/06563 11/25/1999

TECHNICAL FIELD

10 The present invention relates to a portable terminal used both as a portable phone terminal and as an on-board machine in a drive-thru automatic toll collection system which performs automatic payment of the toll, when a vehicle passes a tollgate of a toll road (for example, a highway), without stopping.

BACKGROUND ART

15 Conventionally, road improvement cannot follow the increase in the traffic volume, due to a delay in the administrative management of a nation or a district government, and traffic jams are becoming a social problem. In particular, near a tollgate of a toll road, vehicles must
20 stop temporarily in order to receive a pass and pay the toll, and hence traffic jams tend to occur.

Therefore, a drive-thru automatic toll collection system (ETC: Electronic Toll Collection System) has been recently developed as a unit which alleviates traffic jams,
25 and has been already experimentally operated in some toll

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